



**MARVEL**  
**COMICS**



**\$1.75 US**  
**\$2.15 CAN**  
**44**  
**LATE NOV**  
**UK 95p**

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

**TALES TO TERRIFY TIMID TEENAGERS!**

# EXCALIBUR

**YOU ARE GOING  
TO MEET A TALL,  
DARK STRANGER.**

**30TH  
ANNIVERSARY**



**THE  
FANTASTIC  
FOUR**  
1961-1991

ALAN DAVIS / MARK FARMER



THE POWERFUL CAPTAIN BRITAIN, THE SHAPE-CHANGING MEGGAN, THE INTANGIBLE SHADOWCAT, THE TELEPORTING NIGHTCRAWLER, THE MYSTERIOUS PHOENIX, THE EVER-UNPREDICTABLE WIDGET AND LOCKHEED THE DRAGON FORGED IN THE FIRES OF THEIR TRAGIC PASTS. THEY HAVE Banded TOGETHER TO FIGHT A MODERN DAY CRUSADE AGAINST THE FORCES OF EVIL! STAN LEE PRESENTS...

OTHERWORLD--FABLED REALM OF ROMA, SUPREME GUARDIAN OF THE MULTIVERSE...

...AND HEADQUARTERS TO HER OMNIVERSAL POLICE FORCE, GATHERED HERE, TO JUDGE ONE OF THEIR OWN RANK IN A COURT-MARTIAL OF GREAT POMP AND CEREMONY.

ALAN DAVIS, WRITER/PENCILER  
MARK FARMER, INKER  
MICHAEL HEISLER, LETTERER  
GLYNIS OLIVER, COLORIST  
TERRY KAVANAGH, EDITOR  
TOM DE FALCO, EDITOR IN CHIEF  
EXCALIBUR CREATED BY  
CHRIS CLAREMONT AND ALAN DAVIS

## WITLESS FOR THE PROSECUTION

...IN ADDITION TO THIS LIST OF SEVENTY-FOUR SPECIFIC VIOLATIONS AND A PERSISTENT DISREGARD OF OPERATIONAL DIRECTIVES...

...THE ACCUSED IS CHARGED WITH CONTRAVENING ARTICLE #922265/476W OF EARTH 616 MORALITY CODE...

...BY MAKING AN UNPROVOKED\* ATTACK ON, AND CAUSING ACTUAL BODILY HARM TO, A NATIVE OF EARTH 616, ONE KURT WAGNER, A.K.A. NIGHTCRAWLER.

BRIAN BRADDOCK-- DESIGNATED CAPTAIN BRITAIN 616-- HOW DO YOU PLEAD?

MGRPHKL,  
BSSDZ!

\*LAST ISSUE.  
--TERRY

EXCALIBUR™ Vol. 1, No. 44, Late November, 1991. (ISSN #1045-1366) Published by MARVEL COMICS, Terry Stewart, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly, except semi-monthly November, December, and January. Copyright © 1991 Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price \$1.75 per copy in the U.S. and \$2.15 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: U.S. \$21.00; Canadian subscribers must add \$8.00 for postage and GST; and foreign \$33.00. GST #R127032052. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. EXCALIBUR (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO EXCALIBUR, c/o MARVEL COMICS, 8TH FLOOR, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. PRINTED IN CANADA









MY CLIENT WISHES TO COMPLY WITH THE COURT AND HUMBL Y REQUESTS THAT HIS RESTRAINTS BE REMOVED.



REQUEST GRANTED...YOU HAVE THREE MINUTES TO PREPARE YOUR DEFENSE.



THANKS, LINDA. BUT YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE INVOLVED YOURSELF.

YOU NEED ALL THE HELP YOU CAN GET.

YOU'RE RIGHT. I'VE NEVER WANTED ANY PART OF THIS CONSTITUTIONAL CLAPTRAP.



THAT'S THE PROBLEM, BRIAN. YOU ARE A MEMBER OF THE CORPS. YOU HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES, BOTH AS A GUARDIAN OF THE DIMENSIONAL INTERFACE-- THE GATEWAY BETWEEN REALITIES--

--AND AS A CHAMPION OF THE HIGHEST VALUES OF YOUR EARTH'S MORALITY CODE.

EACH REALITY HAS AN ACCEPTED STANDARD OF MORALITY...

WHAT IS THIS MORALITY CODE?



...FOR INSTANCE, ON ENFORCER CAPONES WORLD, MURDER IS LEGAL...

...WHILE IN SISTER GAI A'S REALITY, PLUCKING A FLOWER IS AN ACT OF GROSS BRUTALITY.



WHY ALL THIS FUSS THEN? I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING THAT AWFUL.

DO NOT DECEIVE YOURSELF. YOU HAVE DISGRACED OUR CORPS.



HAUPTMANN ENGLANDE.\* HAVE YOU COME TO GLOAT?

NO. TO DO MY DUTY.

IT IS MY HONOR TO SERVE AS PROSECUTING COUNSEL.

THE SEVERITY OF YOUR PENALTY IS ASSURED, YOUR GUILT IS BEYOND DOUBT.

\*EXCALIBUR #7-11--TERRY



EARTH 616--  
ENGLAND, HIGH  
IN THE YORKSHIRE  
DALES...

WE'RE NEVER GOING TO FIND  
MY PARENTS. NO ONE AT THE  
GYPSY CAMPS WE'VE BEEN TO  
KNEW MY FAMILY.

OUR INFORMATION ABOUT  
YOUR PAST IS TOO LIMITED.

I'VE TOLD YOU  
EVERYTHING I  
CAN REMEMBER,  
RACHEL.

I WAS BORN DURING  
A SEVERE BLIZZARD. MY  
POWER ADAPTED ME  
TO THE COLD.

"I GREW  
FUR.

"THE PEOPLE IN  
THE CAMP  
THOUGHT I WAS  
CURSED...A  
MONSTER.

"AND I BECAME  
ONE, SHAPED BY  
THE SUPERSTITIOUS  
FEARS THAT  
SURROUNDED ME.

"MY FOLKS HID ME IN A  
CARAVAN. I WATCHED T.V.  
ALL DAY. I ONLY WENT  
OUTSIDE AT NIGHT, WHEN  
WE WERE FAR FROM  
TOWNS.\*

"EVERYTHING ELSE  
IS FUZZY--THE PHASES  
OF THE MOON AFFECTED  
MY BEHAVIOR  
BACK THEN..."

\*AS DETAILED  
IN THE  
CAPTAIN  
BRITAIN  
TRADE PAPER-  
BACK--TERRY

WE ALL REMEMBER  
MORE THAN WE ARE  
AWARE OF, MEGGAN.  
I COULD ACCESS  
YOUR SUBCON-  
SCIOUS MEMORY...?

IF YOU  
THINK IT WILL  
HELP.

...BEFORE I LEARNED  
HOW TO CONTROL MY  
POWER, BRIAN SAID IT  
MADE MY MEMORY BLURRY  
...I CAN'T EVEN REMEM-  
BER MY PARENTS' FACES.

RACHEL PROTECTS HER  
CONSCIOUSNESS, FEELS  
RADIATED EMOTIONS OF  
APPREHENSION,  
CONFUSION...

...AND AS SHE  
TOUCHES MEGGAN'S  
MIND, TRUST AND  
LOVE.

CAUTIOUSLY, SHE PROBES  
DEEPER, PREPARED FOR  
THE NORMAL ARRAY OF  
PSYCHIC SHIELDS...



...BUT THERE  
ARE NONE.

RACHEL PLUNGES  
INTO A SEA OF  
SPLINTERED MEMORY--

--SWIRLING SHARDS OF  
EXPERIENCE FALL  
TOGETHER THEN FLY  
APART IN EVER-CHANG-  
ING PATTERNS OF  
REMINISCENCE--

--THE RAGING TIDE  
OF RAW EMOTION  
OVERWHELMS HER.

SHE FEELS  
HERSELF  
DROWNING.









ELSEWHERE...

ALISTAIRE STUART, ECLECTIC GENIUS, RADICAL PHILOSOPHER AND SENIOR CONSULTING SCIENTIST TO W.H.O. --\*

--HAS TAKEN EIGHT MINUTES AND TWELVE SECONDS TO CROSS THE ROCKY CAUSEWAY...

...DURING THAT TIME, HE HAS DRAWN ON ALL HIS ANALYTICAL SKILLS TO DELIVER A CAREFULLY MEASURED REACTION TO THE MODIFIED EXCALIBUR LIGHTHOUSE.

IT'S A GIANT MUSHROOM!  
--SNIGGER--

IT COULDN'T LOOK MORE RIDICULOUS  
--CHUCKLE-- IF THEY PAINTED IT PINK WITH YELLOW DOTS.

\* WEIRD HAPPENINGS ORGANIZATION -- TERRY.



HERE I WAS WORRYING ABOUT AN APPROPRIATE LINE OF CHAT TO ENTICE THE DELICIOUS RACHEL TO JOIN ME ON MY SAB-BATICAL TO THE EMERALD ISLE...



...WHEN SHE WILL BE OBVIOUSLY ONLY TOO GLAD TO ESCAPE FROM THIS--



--MADHOUSE--



OW!  
ALIEN WAR ZONE...  
PHASED INTO ALTERNATE  
REALITY...



ALISTAIRE IS SPARED FURTHER PAIN AS HE TUMBLES INTO THE LIGHTHOUSE'S NULL-GRAY ELEVATOR...











KNOWN AS  
E'ERATH TO ITS  
INHABITANTS—

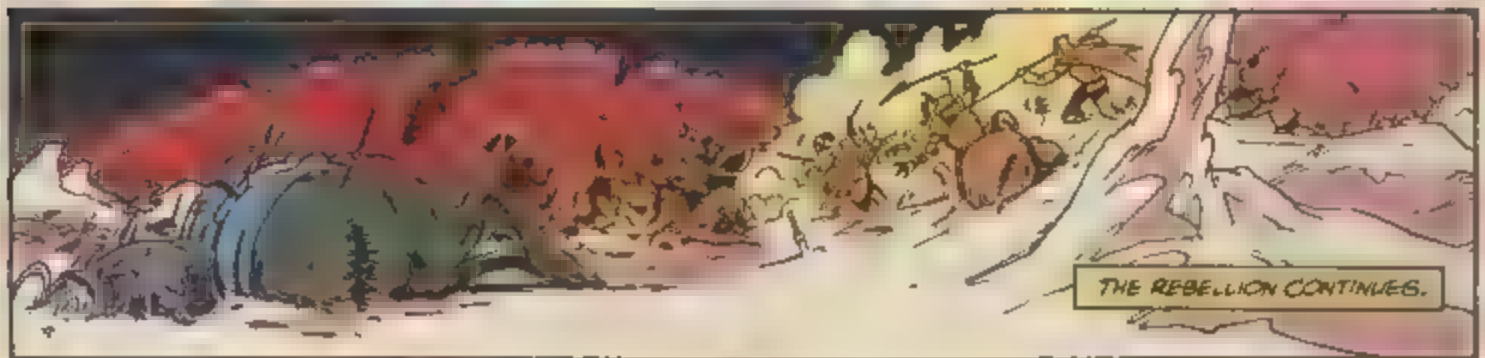
—AN OPPRESSED PEOPLE  
RISEN NOW TO CHALLENGE  
THE MASSES OF THE  
EVIL TYRANT NECROM.

AND ALWAYS  
WHERE THE BATTLE  
IS THICKEST...

THE PEOPLE'S  
CHAMPION,  
KYLUN...

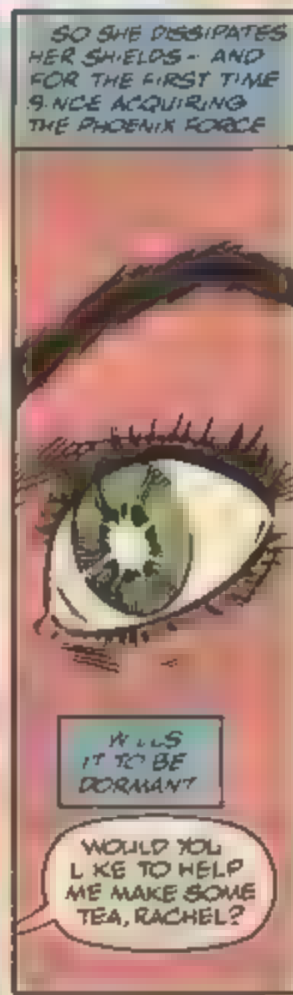
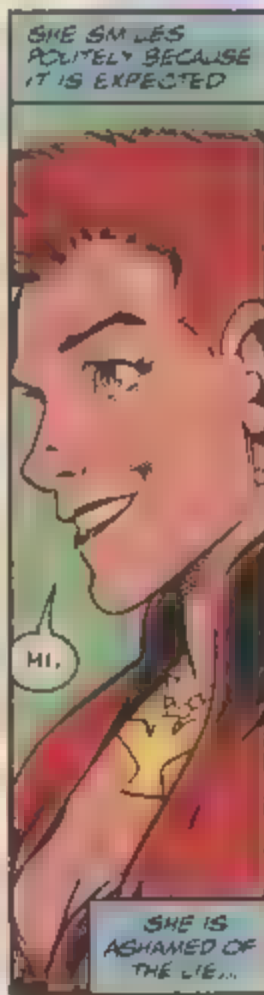
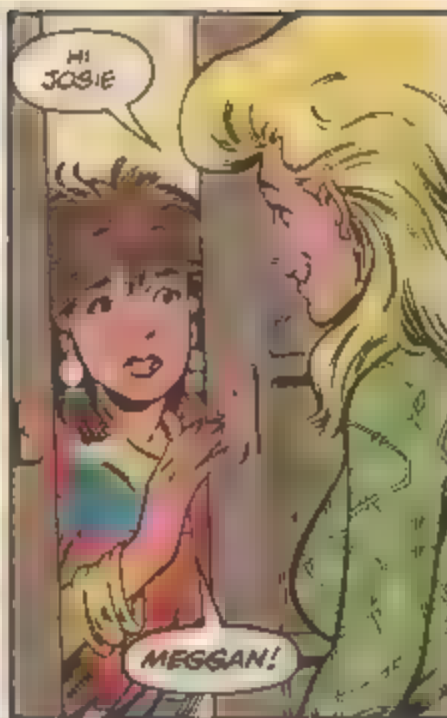
AND THEIR  
PRINCESS  
SA'TNEEN.



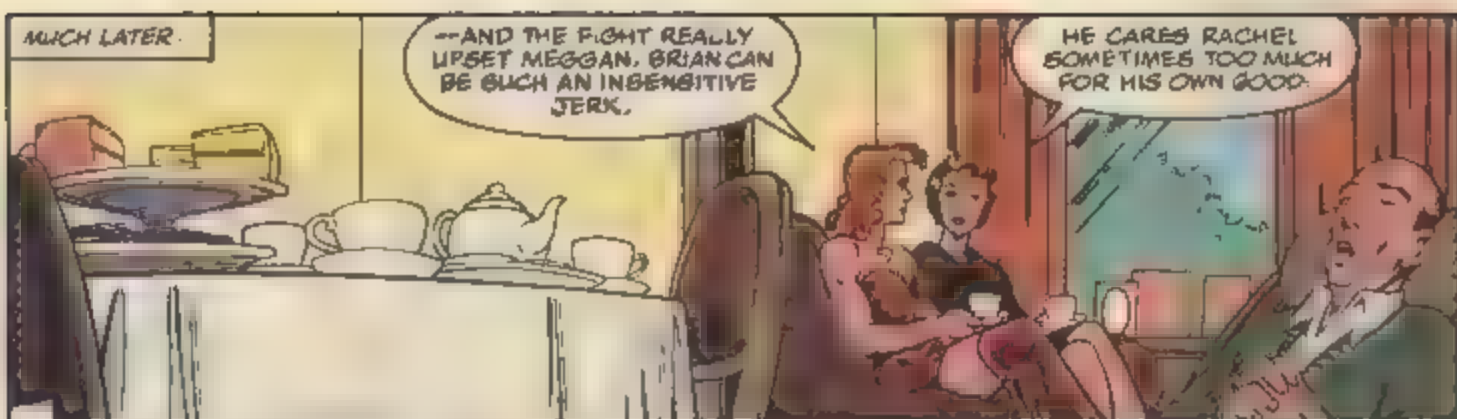


THE REBELLION CONTINUES.





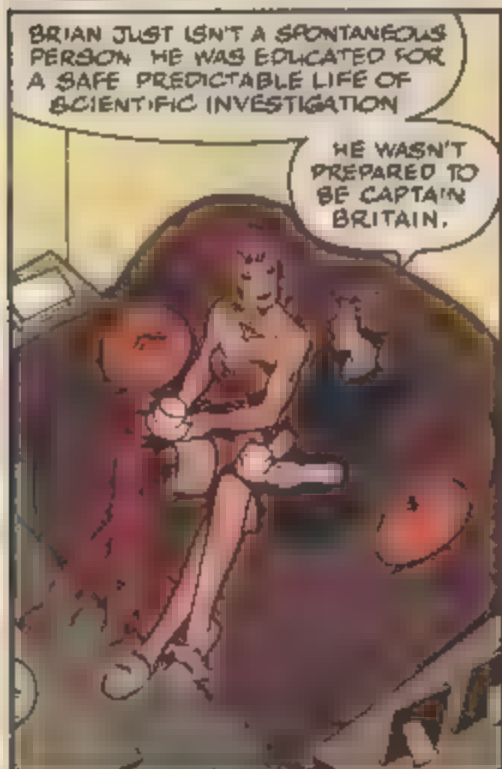




MUCH LATER.

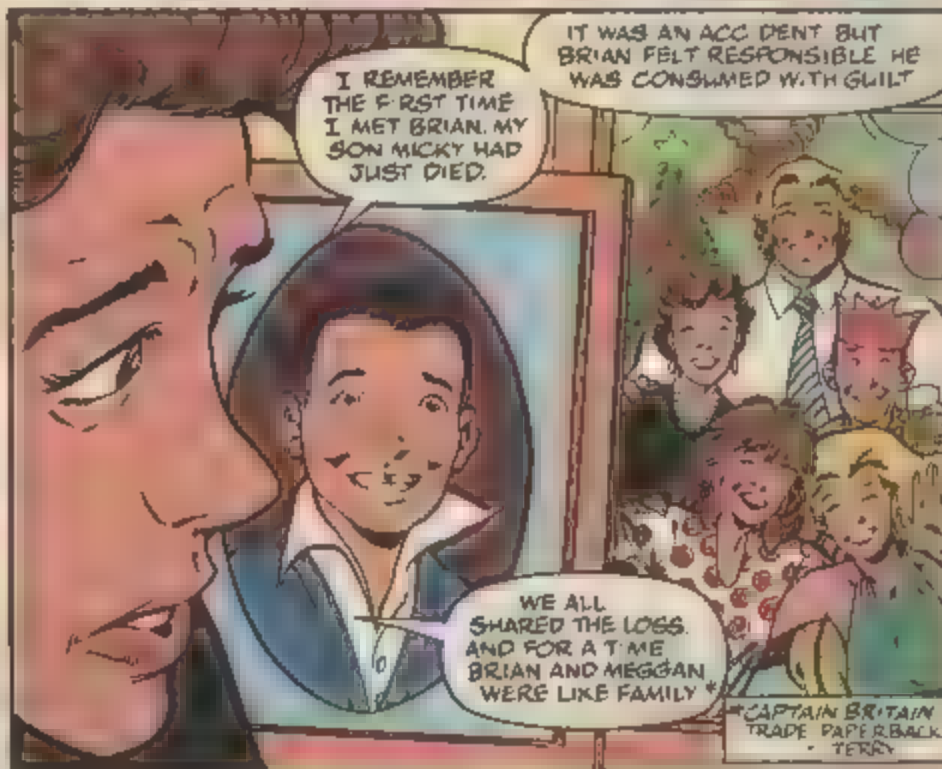
--AND THE FIGHT REALLY UPSET MEGGAN. BRIAN CAN BE SUCH AN INSENSITIVE JERK.

HE CARES RACHEL SOMETIMES TOO MUCH FOR HIS OWN GOOD.



BRIAN JUST ISN'T A SPONTANEOUS PERSON. HE WAS EDUCATED FOR A SAFE PREDICTABLE LIFE OF SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION.

HE WASN'T PREPARED TO BE CAPTAIN BRITAIN.



I REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME I MET BRIAN. MY SON MICKY HAD JUST DIED.

IT WAS AN ACCIDENT BUT BRIAN FELT RESPONSIBLE HE WAS CONSUMED WITH GUILT.

WE ALL SHARED THE LOSS. AND FOR A TIME BRIAN AND MEGGAN WERE LIKE FAMILY.

CAPTAIN BRITAIN TRADE PAPERBACK - TERRY



BUT BRIAN WAS AFRAID OF INVOLVING US IN THE CONSTANT DANGER YOU ALL LIVE WITH.

HE STILL WRITES SENDS CARDS AND FLOWERS.



TELL BRIAN I SEND MY LOVE.

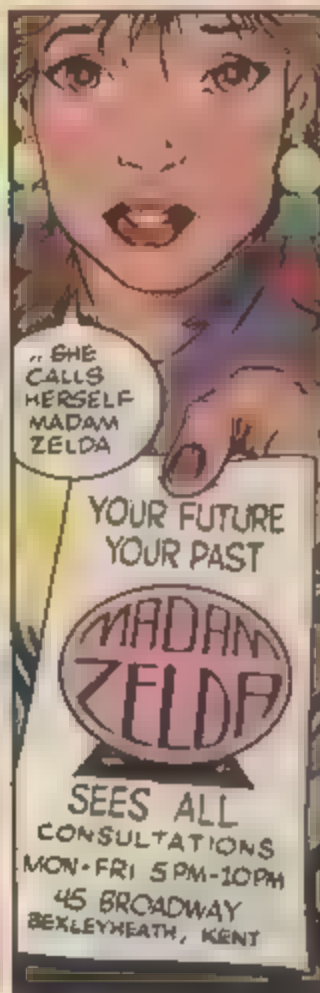
I WILL.

RACHEL..



"JOSIE SAYS THE POLICE DON'T LET THE GYPSIES CAMP AROUND HERE ANYMORE --

--BUT ONE OF THEM TURNED RESPECTABLE AND SET UP SHOP AS A FORTUNE TELLER..



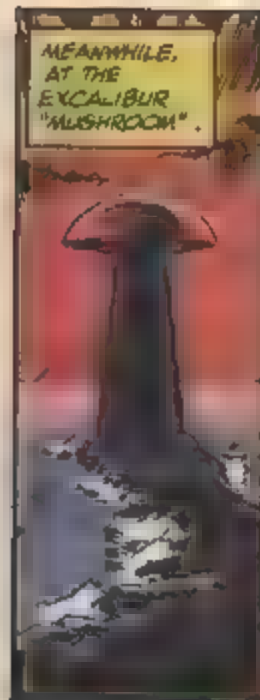
"SHE CALLS HERSELF MADAM ZELDA

YOUR FUTURE  
YOUR PAST

MADAM  
ZELDA

SEES ALL  
CONSULTATIONS  
MON-FRI 5PM-10PM  
45 BROADWAY  
BEXLEYHEATH, KENT





MEANWHILE,  
AT THE  
EXCALIBUR  
"MUSHROOM".

HULLO KURT,  
BEEN IN A  
SCRAP, EH?



COMMANDER  
THOMAS? PLEASE  
COME IN.

THIS IS MISS EMELIA  
WITHERSPOON...

"A CLAIRVOYANT,  
WHO HAS BUILT UP  
QUITE A REPUTATION  
AT SCOTLAND YARD.

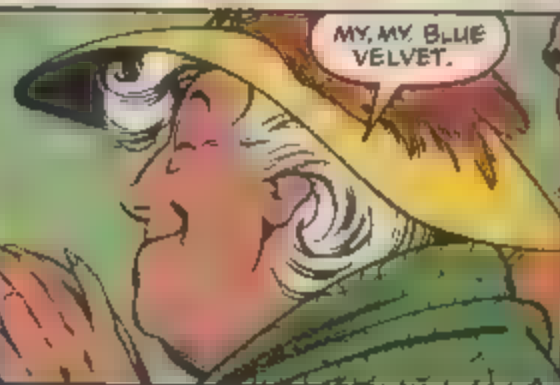


ENCHANTED



MY MY WHAT  
A DEVILISHLY  
HANDSOME ROGUE  
YOU ARE.

MIGHT I BE  
PERMITTED TO STROKE  
YOUR FUR?

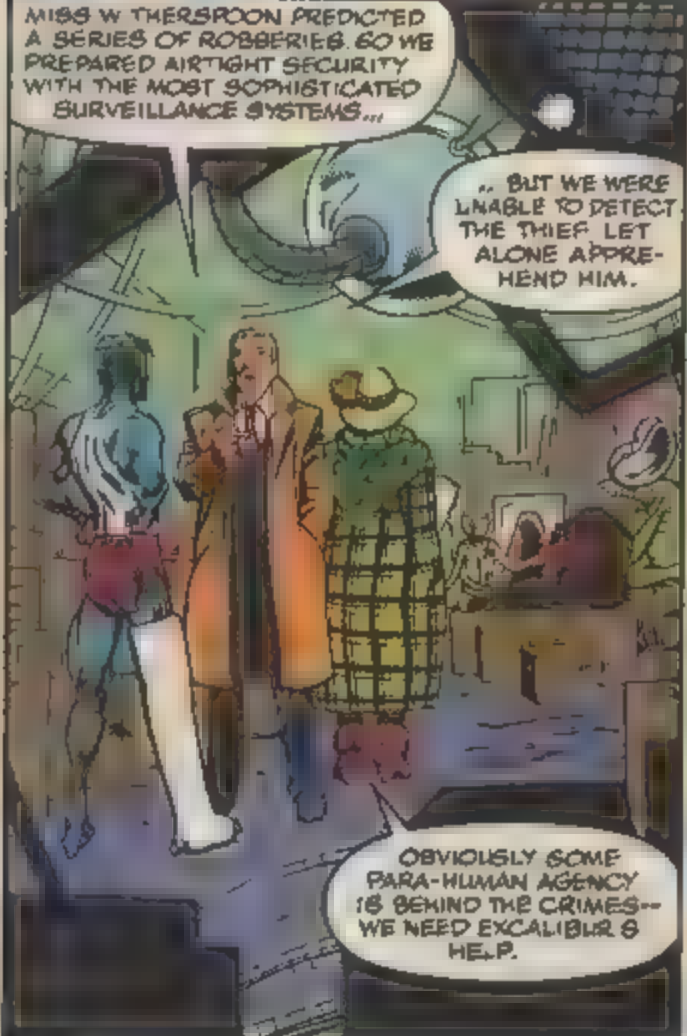


PLEASE.

MY, MY BLUE  
VELVET.

SORRY TO  
INTERRUPT  
BUT WE'RE  
HERE FOR  
A REASON.

YES, INDEED.  
MOST URGENT



MISS WITHERSPOON PREDICTED  
A SERIES OF ROBBERIES, SO WE  
PREPARED AIRTIGHT SECURITY  
WITH THE MOST SOPHISTICATED  
SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS...

"BUT WE WERE  
UNABLE TO DETECT  
THE THIEF LET  
ALONE APPRE-  
HEND HIM.

OBVIOUSLY SOME  
PARA-HUMAN AGENCY  
IS BEHIND THE CRIMES--  
WE NEED EXCALIBUR'S  
HELP.



THEY ARE NOT HERE AND  
I, AS YOU CAN SEE, AM  
INCAPACITATED.

TODAY'S LETTERS  
ARE P AND A AND  
THE NUMBER IS  
NINE.

WHY CAN'T  
THEY  
HELP?

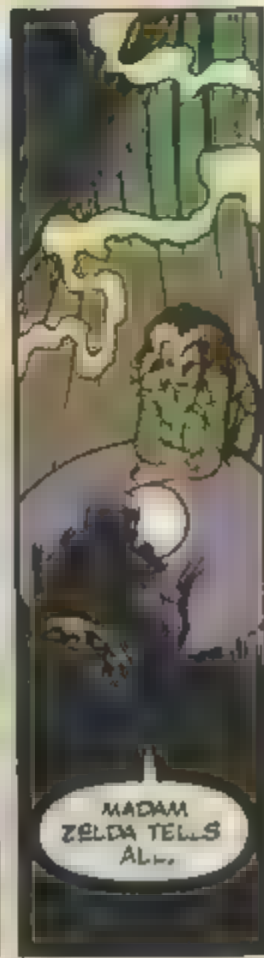
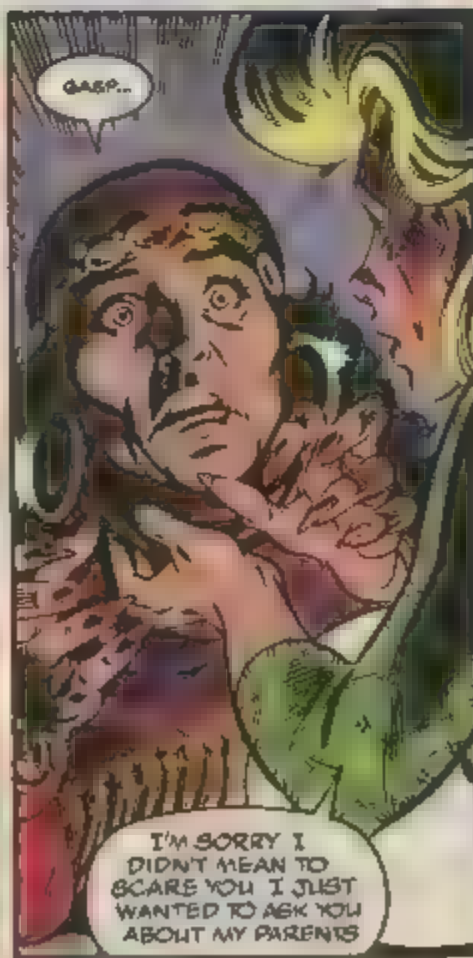
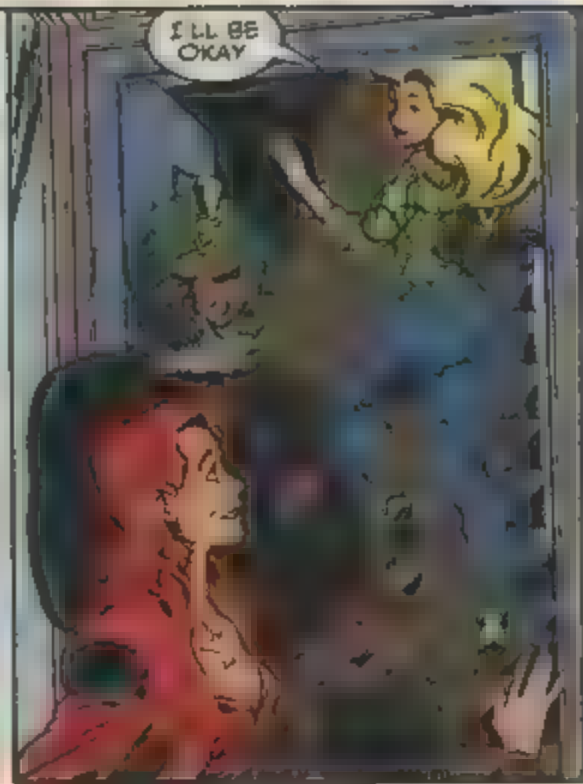


NO...IT'S TOO  
RIDICULOUS--

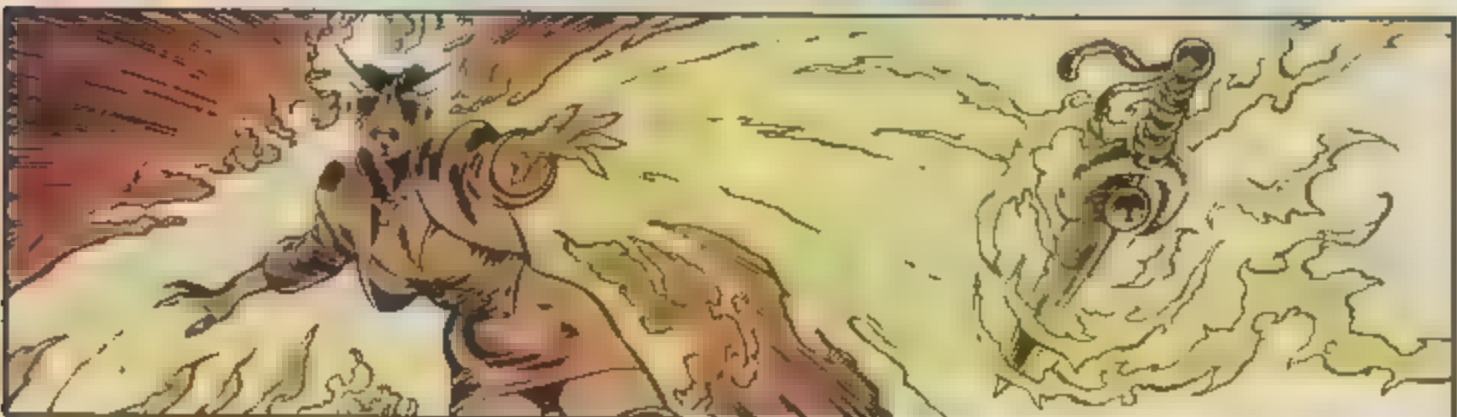
WE'RE  
DESPERATE.

YOU CANNOT  
IGNORE YOUR DUTY,  
YOUNG MAN. THIS  
IS MERELY THE  
PRELUDE

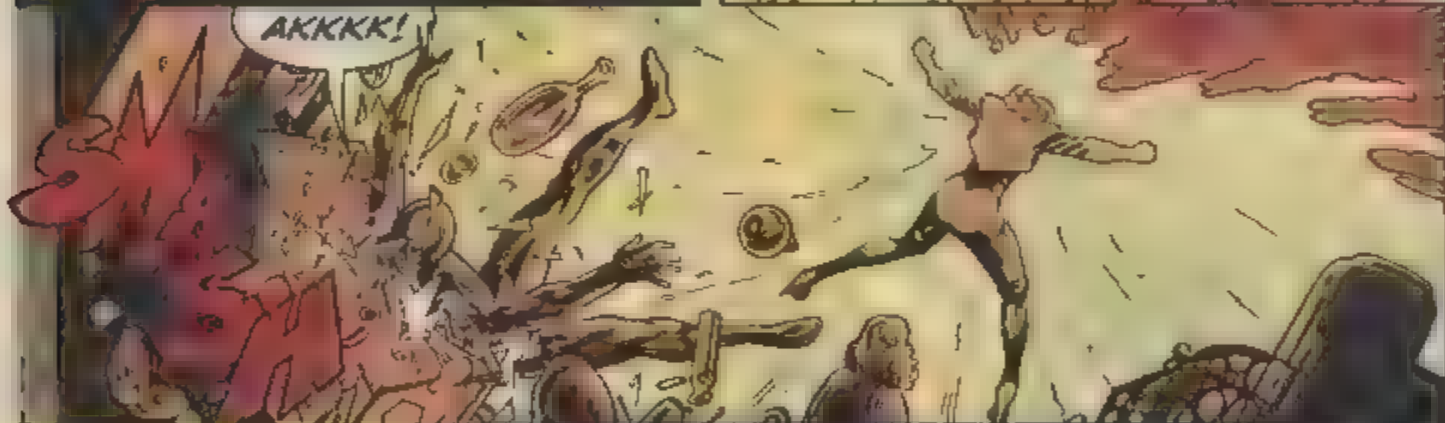
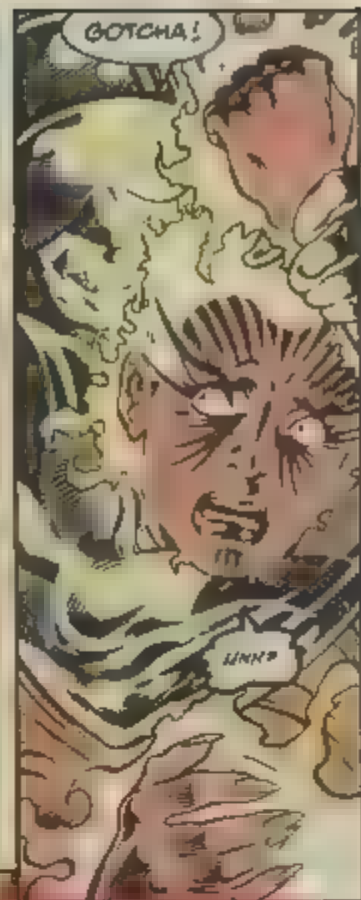
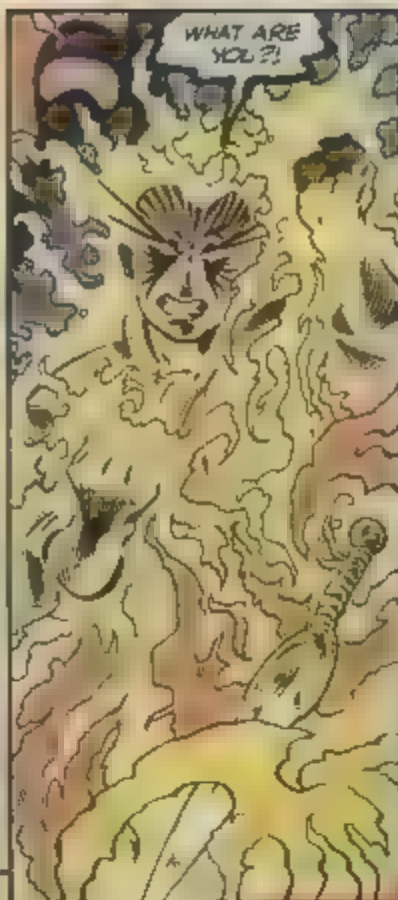
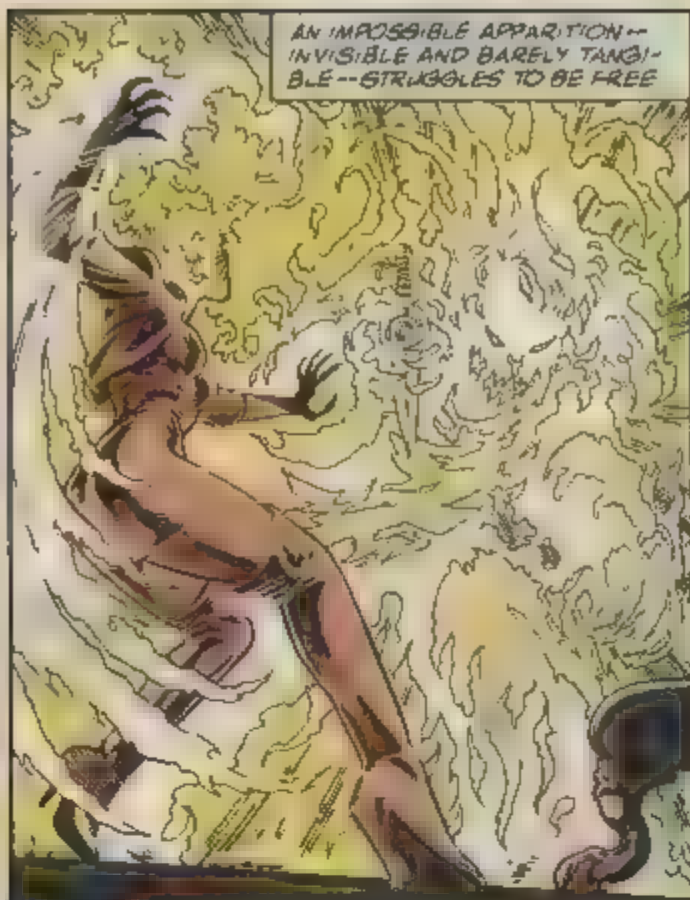




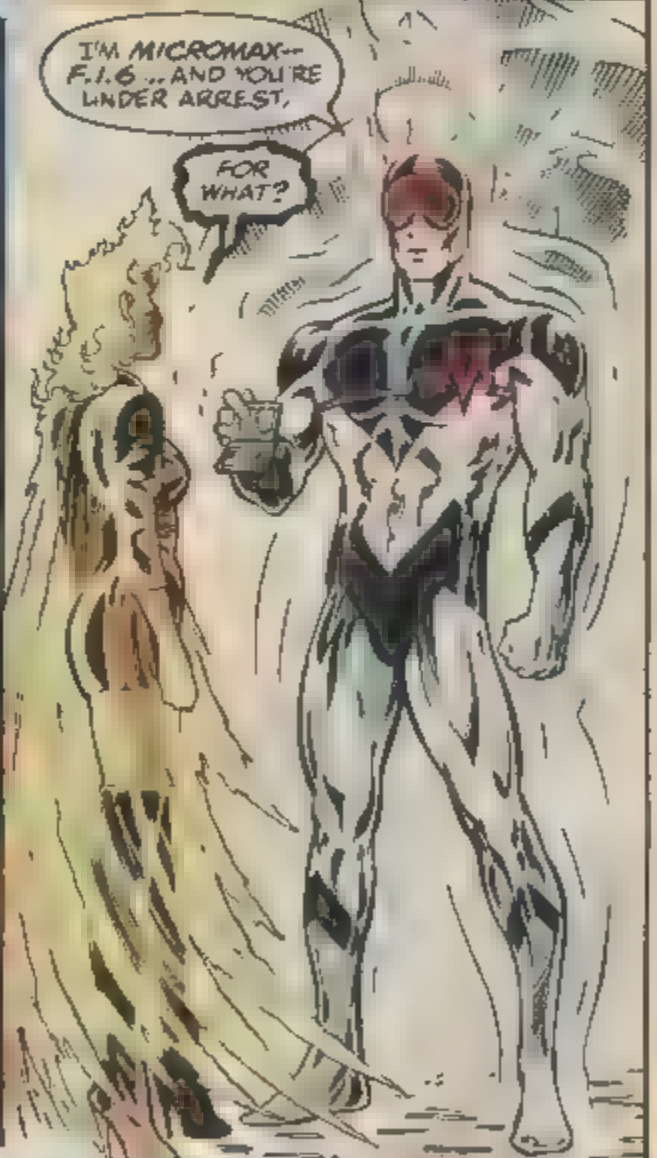
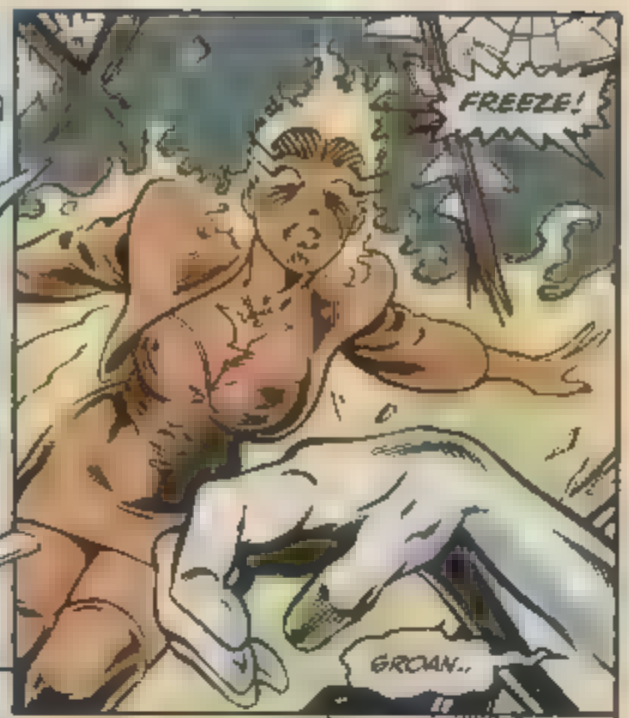
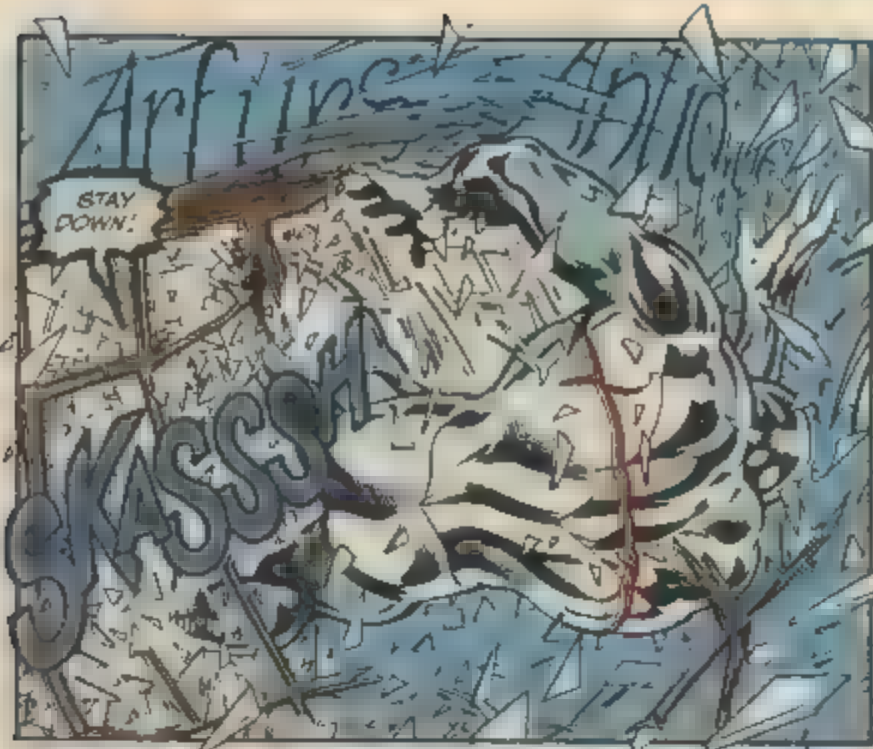




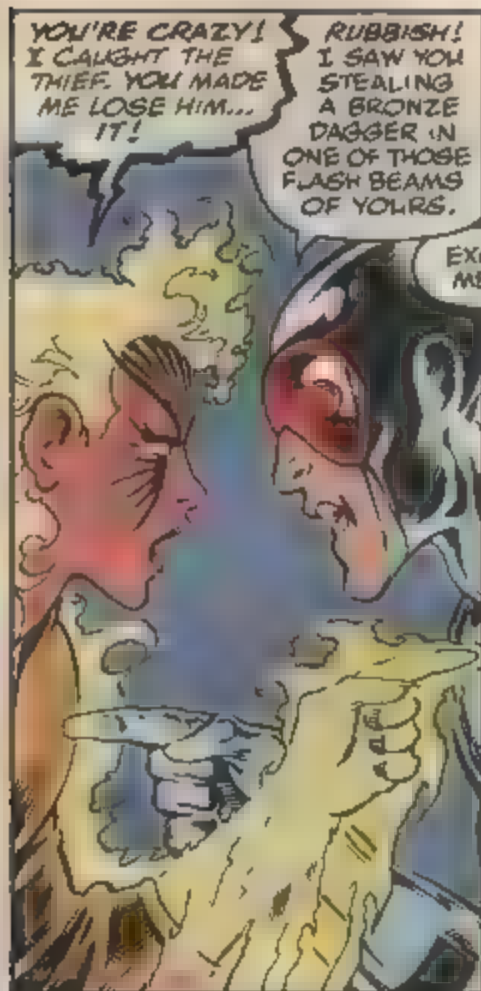












YOU'RE CRAZY!  
I CAUGHT THE  
THIEF. YOU MADE  
ME LOSE HIM...  
IT!

RUBBISH!  
I SAW YOU  
STEALING  
A BRONZE  
DAGGER IN  
ONE OF THOSE  
FLASH BEAMS  
OF YOURS.

EXCUSE  
ME, SIR.



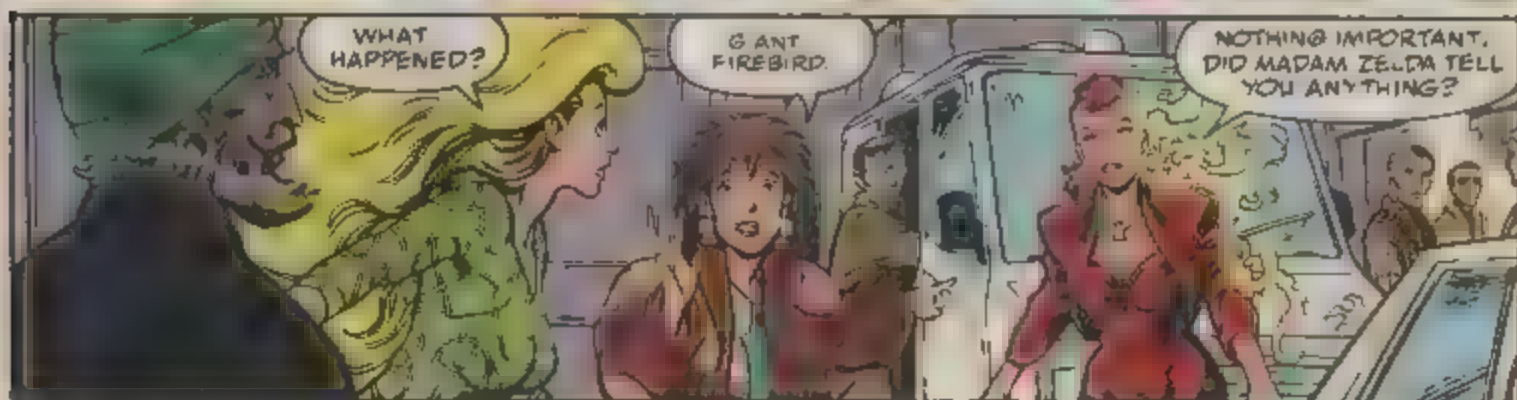
SHE'S TELLING THE  
TRUTH, A VAGUE  
HUMANOID SHAPE  
SHOWED UP ON THE  
UV IMAGE ENHANC-  
ER. IT WAS INVISI-  
BLE ON ALL WAVE-  
LENGTHS.



WELL?!



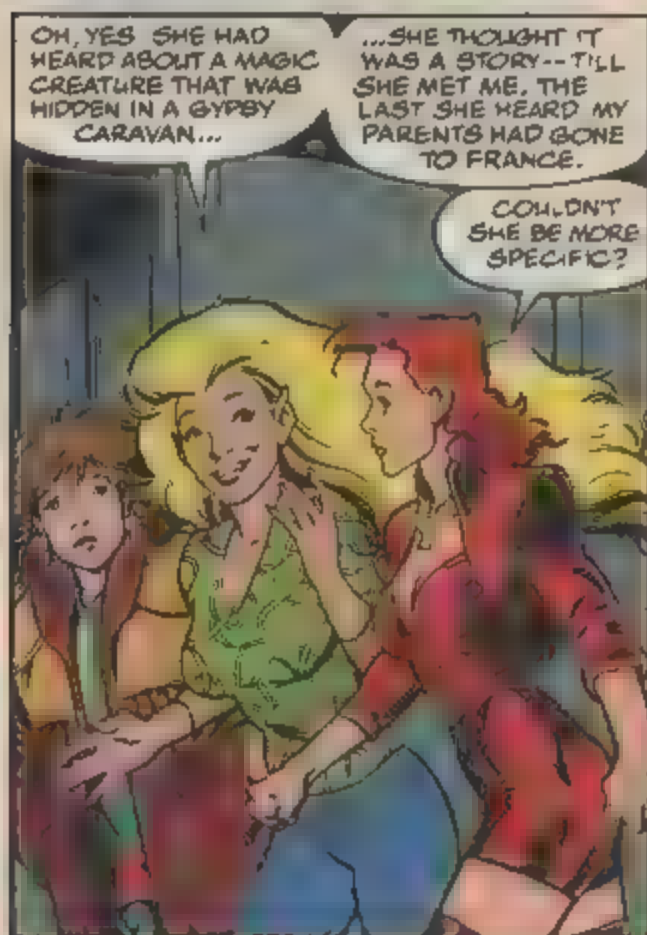
JUST YOU  
KEEP OUT OF  
GOVERNMENT  
OPERATIONS  
IN FUTURE.



WHAT  
HAPPENED?

G ANT  
FIREBIRD.

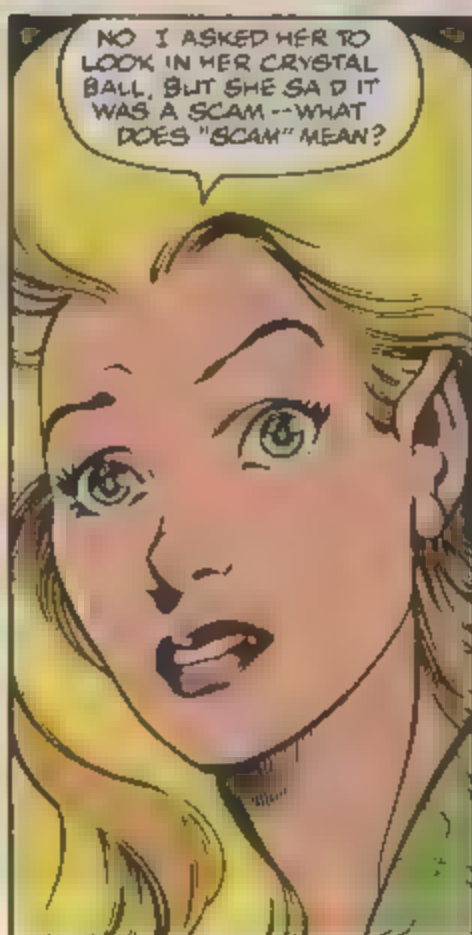
NOTHING IMPORTANT.  
DID MADAM ZELDA TELL  
YOU ANYTHING?



OH, YES SHE HAD  
HEARD ABOUT A MAGIC  
CREATURE THAT WAS  
HIDDEN IN A GYPSY  
CARAVAN...

...SHE THOUGHT IT  
WAS A STORY--TILL  
SHE MET ME. THE  
LAST SHE HEARD MY  
PARENTS HAD GONE  
TO FRANCE.

COULDN'T  
SHE BE MORE  
SPECIFIC?



NO I ASKED HER TO  
LOOK IN HER CRYSTAL  
BALL, BUT SHE SAID IT  
WAS A SCAM--WHAT  
DOES "SCAM" MEAN?



IT MEANS SHE  
WAS TELLING YOU  
THE TRUTH.





--CAPTAIN BRITAIN 616 FURTHER INSULTED THE CORPS WHEN HE SUBORDINATED HIMSELF TO BECOME A MERE MEMBER IN A GROUP OF COSTUMED ADVENTURERS...

...OPERATING UNDER THE SOBRIQUET, EXCALIBUR.



THIS SELF-SAME GROUP CAUSED UNTOLD DISRUPTION TO NUMEROUS REALITIES WHEN THEY MADE A SERIES OF ILLEGAL INTERDIMENSIONAL TRANSITS.

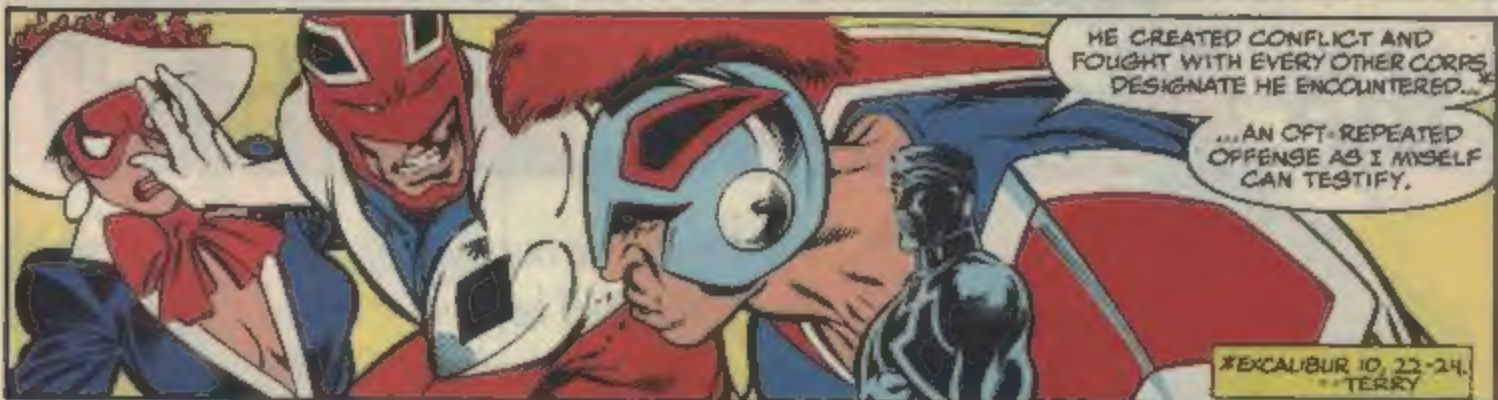
#EXCALIBUR 12-24.  
--TERRY



THIS "CROSS-TIME CAPER" WAS YET ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR CAPTAIN BRITAIN 616 TO DESERT HIS DESIGNATED POST AND TO DISPLAY HIS CONTEMPT FOR THE CORPS.

HE ADOPTED THE OFFICIAL UNIFORM OF CAPTAIN MARSHALL 1193 WITHOUT CORPS APPROVAL AND WITH FLAGRANT DISREGARD OF THE CORPS DRESS CODE.

#EXCALIBUR 13.  
--TERRY



HE CREATED CONFLICT AND FOUGHT WITH EVERY OTHER CORPS DESIGNATE HE ENCOUNTERED...

...AN OFT-REPEATED OFFENSE AS I MYSELF CAN TESTIFY.

#EXCALIBUR 10, 23-24.  
--TERRY



BUT, THE MOST OBSCURE SPECTACLE OF HIS DEPRAVED CAREER...

...CAME WHEN THE ACCUSED MADE A VICIOUS ATTACK ON ONE OF THE POPULATION HE IS SWORN TO PROTECT.

THIS, I PROPOSE, IS THE FINAL UNFORGIVABLE OUTRAGE OF A VILE TRAITOR.





THAT CONCLUDES THE TESTIMONY FOR THE PROSECUTION.

POINT OF ORDER, HAUPTMANN ENGLADE 597.

YES, BROTHER BRIT-MAN 65.

YOU NEGLECTED TO INCLUDE THE GUY THE ACCUSED BEAT TO DEATH ON YOUR LIST OF CRIMES.

THE KILLING OF SLAYMASTER WAS A LEGITIMATE EXECUTION, SINCE THE ASSASSIN HAD ATTACKED AND BLINDED BETSY BRADDOCK.

ARTICLE 56/6377253A OF OUR CONSTITUTION PERMITS EXECUTIVE ACTION IN DEFENSE OR REVENGE OF OTHERWORLD DESCENDANTS.

\*CAPTAIN BRITAIN  
TRADE PAPERBACK  
\*\*TERRY

\*PSYLOCKE OF THE X-MEN.  
TERRY



WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER DUDE HE WASTED--THE COP?

THAT WAS CAPTAIN BRITAIN 3913. HIS TRIAL IS TOMORROW.



HEY, I'M SORRY, MAN. ALL THIS ALTERNATIVE REALITY STUFF DOES MY HEAD IN.

AND MINE... THIS IS INSANE.

DON'T GIVE UP, BRIAN.



THIS ISN'T A TRIAL... THEY WANT ME TO BE GUILTY, AND THEY'VE TWISTED THE TRUTH TO JUSTIFY THEIR DECISION.

BRIAN, PLEASE.



YOU DID ALL YOU COULD, LINDA. YOU'RE A GOOD FRIEND-- THANK YOU.







Attention correspondents: If you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us so!

Dear Mighty Marvel,

When I heard Alan Davis was returning, I was the happiest person on Earth. The stories and art have been so dull since the big A.D. left!

How's about bringing the Warwolves back? They're the best villains (along with the Crazy Gang) that Excalibur have ever faced.

This is my first time ever writing to a comic, but after reading EXCALIBUR #40, "The Trial of Lockheed," I knew I had to write. I was really unhappy until I got to the last 4 panels on page 27. Lockheed is one of my favorite characters on the team. Having the X-Men get out of the chopper on the last page was a surprise.

Until Phoenix marries Howard the Duck, Make Mine EXCALIBUR!

Kahlen Burgwin  
P.O. Box 279  
Indianola, WA 98342

Well, Kahlen, you weren't the only one to have a strong reaction to issue #40! Both Lockheed and the appearance of the X-Men generated a huge response — so huge, in fact, that although much of last issue's letters page was devoted to issue #40, we decided to try to print a few more letters here.

Read on!

Dear Sword Strokes,

Please do not do this again. Lockheed is a great character and issue #40 went a long way to ruining him. Part of his charm when he first appeared way back in X-MEN #166 was how he always seemed to know what Kitty was thinking even though he could not verbally communicate. Although he did give an occasional "CooOOOoo!", "Feh!", or "ROAR!", he still had no real language to speak of.

On a good note, I'm ecstatic to hear of the return of Alan Davis. He draws EXCALIBUR like no one else can. It's also good to see the X-Men(?) back in these pages. Are these the X-Men?

Well, gotta go. One more thing: DON'T DO THIS AGAIN!!!!

Michael J. Church  
(Address withheld upon request)

Oh, Michael, now why would you doubt for even a moment that the group at the end of issue #40 was really the X-Men? We just can't figure you out!

Dear Sword Strokes,

JUST LOVED THE LOCKHEED STORY!!! And I thought the "poetic" style of speaking really helped to make the story and indeed the character of Locky sufficiently different to take the story into the realm of greatness!

I have been a firm follower of EXCALIBUR since it first started (bring back the Warwolves, I say...), which leads to my reply to the letter in an earlier issue concerning a Kitty Pryde and Illyanna Rasputin Fan Club. Since then, I have come to an arrangement with its President, the great emperor Spassov and I am now his left hand man

over here in England. For any readers in England and Europe, they can now join the International Fan Club of SOULMATES! by writing to 93a Malcom Street, Heaton, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE6 5PN, England.

I must also add that I have just finished the EXCALIBUR SPECIAL: POSSESSED. What can I say...the art struck me as soon as I opened it. Now this is why I buy comics!

Nicholas Hood  
Unit 15  
25 Low Friar Street  
Newcastle Upon Tyne  
NE1 5UE England

Good news, Nicholas! There will be a second EXCALIBUR SPECIAL! It's Fall! Written by Scott Lobdell, the poet you so enjoyed in issue #40, it will feature art by Erik Larsen, Rick Leonardi, Jackson Guice, Dwayne Turner, Sam Keith, Terry Austin, Joe Rubinstein, and Klaus Janson. Whew! What a line-up!

Dear Sword Strokes,

I must say that you've done an excellent job with EXCALIBUR. I really enjoyed issue #40. I was so glad to see a book concerning Lockheed. I want to see more of him.

Also, I've loved what you've done with Phoenix. I hope we will see a lot more of her. She's my favorite.

Well, until Nightcrawler wants to sing in a rock group, Make Mine Marvel.

Shane Bekkemellom  
6705 Village Road  
Salt Lake City, UT 84121

More Lockheed, Shane? Aren't you ever satisfied?

Dear Sword Strokes,

When I first got EXCALIBUR #31 from a friend, I really enjoyed it. So I started to collect EXCALIBUR, and now I have at least half of all the issues.

I loved issue #40 (when Lockheed goes on trial). It was fantastic! I would recommend EXCALIBUR to anyone who doesn't already have it.

Is it possible that you could feature only Shadowcat and Nightcrawler in an issue?

Raymond Bradley  
(Address withheld upon request)

Welcome aboard, Raymond! Watch for future issues by Alan Davis, as he will be featuring individual members of EXCALIBUR!

Sword Strokes,

RE: Issue #40, "The Trial of Lockheed."

Maybe this was a dream, maybe it was a hoax, maybe it was just an imaginary tale. Maybe I just didn't like the story. I remember when Lockheed was first introduced in X-MEN, and I immediately liked him and knew that there was more to his story, but I didn't mind not knowing. Hopefully this tale was just images that a dragon has when he's put under a knife — I don't know, I don't have any dragon friends.

The only redeeming factor of this story was the last page panel of those X-People. Hoping next issue isn't a hoax, that they really do get back together.

Brent Bottjen  
16502 Regina Circle #3  
Huntington Beach, CA 92649

Geez, this story sure brought out some strong feelings! Hang in there, Brent!

Dear Writers of EXCALIBUR,

I just picked up issue #40 the other day, and I have one thing to say: IT'S ABOUT TIME!!! After forty issues of EXCALIBUR, plus two bookshelves, and a series in MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS, they are finally meeting the X-Men. Not the X-Babies, the nightmare version of the X-Men, Meggan impersonating the X-Men's powers, the demon X-Men, or the Vega-Men. It is the real X-Men. At least it better be, because this reunion is long overdue — like two years.

Before I sign off — keep Lockheed alive!

Steve Rossmore  
37540 Fieldcrest Lane  
Sterling Hts., MI 48077

It better be the real X-Men, Steve? Hope you weren't disappointed with issue #41!

Yo, Lobdell,

Yeah, right...the X-Men. Summe. That's the ticket. If that's the real X-Men, then my name is Ruby Begonia. Give me a break, and really do bring the real X-Men to this comic!

Carlos M. Fernandez  
8234 S. Lagoon Dr.  
Panama City Beach, FL 32408

Can't fool you for a second, eh Carlos?

Dear Sword Strokes,

I think that you guys are doing a really red job. I think that each member of Excalibur is special in their own way. I do not know if the writers and the artists are wizards or witches, but they somehow get a little magic in each word and picture. I think that my favorite EXCALIBUR comic is #40. I think that EXCALIBUR makes any DC comic look like a Sunday morning comic strip.

Chris (last name illegible)  
21 Ormond St.  
Dix Hills, NY 11746

Wizards and witches abound here, Chris! Or at the very least, creative folk who do know how to "work a little magic!"

**NEXT ISSUE:**  
RIOT ON OTHERWORLD!  
THE INTRODUCTION OF...  
THE X-MEN! AND THAT'S ONLY  
THE BEGINNING!